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[REDACTED] 804-63
Copy 13 of 13

11 June 1963

MEMORANDUM FOR : Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

SUBJECT : NRO Use of CIA Contracting Authority

REFERENCE : Memo for DD/NRO from D/NRO, Dated 24 May 1963;
Same Subject [REDACTED] 5093-63) 25X1A

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1. In connection with our conversation in your office 2 June 1963 on the subject of the Agency's role in the clandestine reconnaissance field, I should like to call your attention to the referenced paper received not long ago from [REDACTED] on the manner in which D/NRO expects to make use of the Agency's special authorities for projects other than those for which technical management responsibility is assigned to the Director, Program B. In this context I would especially call your attention to the second of the three reasons contained in [REDACTED] memorandum.

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2. In addition to the services offered by this Agency in the field of contracts and security, you should be aware that this Agency devotes a considerable portion of its communications' facilities to the support of not only those programs we do manage, but those managed by the NRO itself, including the satellite programs. Your statement that if CIA were to be divorced from operational and technical responsibility for clandestine reconnaissance, you would want to see it out of the support field as well, should therefore include the communications network which we have laboriously set up over the past years in support of Air Force tasks. It remains my firm conviction that at no point has Air Force assumed that their usurpation of command and technical control would be forced by withdrawal of contractual, security, logistics, and communications support now provided by CIA.

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[REDACTED]
JAMES A. CUNNINGHAM, JR.
Acting Assistant Director
(Special Activities)

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